

Blount Partnership



2016 Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP 2.0)

The Marine and Advanced Engineering Systems Technology
for Regional Occupations

Blount Partnership

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

1. Pellissippi State Community College, Cleveland State
Community College, Tennessee College of Applied
Technology Knoxville
2. Alcoa City School, Blount County School, Knox County
School, Maryville City School, Monroe County School
3. Alcoa Tennessee Operations, Blount County Public Library,
Boatmate Trailers, LLC, Brunswick Manufacturing, Carlex,
DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc., East Tennessee
Human Resource Agency, Inc., WIOA (LWDA 4), Exedy
America Corporation, Knoxville Oak Ridge Innovation Valley,
ProNova Solutions, Skier's Choice, Inc., Yamaha Jet Boat
Manufacturing

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President/Director of Higher Education
Institution

Funding requested:
\$997,737


President/Director of Higher Education
Institution


Project Director



Blount
Partnership

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Legal Affairs

**The Marine and Advanced Engineering System
Technology Regional Occupations (MAESTRO)
Blount, Knox, and Monroe Counties**



**PELLISSIPPI STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**



**TENNESSEE COLLEGE
OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY**
KNOXVILLE



MONROE COUNTY SCHOOLS



DENSO

**KNOXVILLE
OAK RIDGE
INNOVATION VALLEY**



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Alcoa Tennessee Operations
Blount County Public Library
Boatmate Trailers, LLC
Brunswick Manufacturing
East Tennessee Human Resource Agency, Inc., WIOA (LWDA 4)
Knoxville Oak Ridge Innovation Valley
ProNova Solutions
Skier's Choice, Inc.

WORK-BASED LEARNING COMMITMENTS

Boatmate Trailers, LLC
Carlex
DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc.
Exedy America Corporation
ProNova Solutions
Skier's Choice, Inc.
Yamaha Jet Boat Manufacturing

APPENDIX G. LETTERS OF SUPPORT FROM HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION

Pellissippi State Community College
Cleveland State Community College

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Marine and Advanced Engineering Systems Technology Regional Occupations

MAESTRO

Abstract

Cleveland State and Pellissippi State Community Colleges and Tennessee College of Applied Technology - Knoxville will collaborate to develop more qualified, skilled employees for industry in a three-county LEAP 2.0 service area consisting of Knox, Blount, and Monroe Counties. The Blount Partnership, an economic development agency, will be the lead entity. Cleveland State will be the fiscal agent.

The colleges, in partnership with five school districts, will create a dual enrollment and dual credit advanced manufacturing curriculum which will enable high school students to graduate with an industry-recognized certificate known as the Industrial Automation Certificate (IAC) and enough college credit to complete their freshman year in advanced manufacturing majors.

Cleveland State will offer college credit for an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree in Industrial Technology in Monroe County. Pellissippi State will offer Automated Industrial Systems (AIS) or Industrial Maintenance Technology (IMT) in Knox and Blount Counties.

Cleveland State will utilize their new Monroe County Center for dual credit courses, while Pellissippi State will use its Blount County and Strawberry Plains Campuses. Equipment purchased with LEAP 2.0 funds will enable the colleges to offer the programs at these locations.

MAESTRO will provide work-based learning (WBL) to high school and college students in advanced manufacturing programs. Five manufacturers have committed to providing nine internships per semester to qualified students. WBL will count as the Capstone Course at both institutions. MAESTRO will enable the colleges to produce more skilled workers quickly and with less cost to the student.

Section 1: Demonstrated Need

Localized data demonstrating the need for action - The skills gap is widening, and over the next decade, 3.4 million manufacturing jobs will need to be filled. The severe shortage of advanced manufacturing skills in the United States has the potential to impede the trend of steady growth in our nation's manufacturing.¹ Manufacturing is a top driver of Tennessee's economy, providing \$41 billion in output and employing 300,000.²

The Jobs4TN website shows manufacturing careers are high growth jobs both regionally and nationally. (See Appendix E, Chart 1, Page 1) Pellissippi State Community College (PSCC) and Cleveland State Community College (CLSCC) argue the 3,950 new jobs in Knox, Monroe, and Blount Counties over the past 15 months require action to train new workers. (See Appendix E, Chart 2, Page 2)

Training skilled workers and sustaining them in southeast Tennessee is a challenge for higher education. In the three counties served by CLSCC and PSCC, there have been more than 3,950 new jobs have been announced. Of these, 2,580 are in advanced manufacturing.

The top two postsecondary programs of study where opportunities are growing are Precision Production Manufacturing and Operations and Maintenance, with 3,175 and 2,495 annual job openings respectively across the state.³ PSCC and CLSCC are not graduating enough skilled workers to meet the demand. The gap between demand and Tennessee higher education's ability to prepare enough graduates with this skill set is widening. During the past eight years PSCC produced an average of 259 Engineering Technology (ET) graduates for a total of 1,900 ET

¹ Competing to Win: Manufacturers' Agenda For Economic Growth and American Exceptionalism, National Association of Manufacturers, 2016, <http://www.nam.org/Competing-to-Win.pdf>

² Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Tennessee Manufacturers Association, <http://tnmfg.org/>

³ THEC Academic Supply and Occupational Demand in Tennessee
https://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/thec/attachments/LM2015_SupplyDemand_Combined_0120.pdf

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graduates, 255 short of the number needed to fill the new manufacturing jobs in Blount County.

(See Appendix E, Graph 1, Page 4) In Monroe County, Yamaha and SeaRay Boats increased hiring for skilled workers. Carlex will add approximately 500 new employees in the next 5-10 years. JTEKT will need at least 20 new production employees a month. CLSCC produced an average of 49 graduates a year with an Industrial Technology associate degrees or Electrical Maintenance, Mechanical Maintenance, or Industrial Automation Fundamentals certificates, not enough to meet the demand. (See Appendix E, Graph 2, Page 4)

Another factor exacerbating the shortage is massive retirements. An estimated 2.7 million baby boomers will be retiring⁴ with 700,000 jobs created nationally due to normal business growth. Manufacturing executives identify talent-driven innovation as the #1 determinant of competitiveness. The implications of the shortage can have a material impact on growth.⁵

Clear linkages between grant activities and local needs - Local industrial leaders, human resource agencies, Chambers of Commerce, community college advisory councils, and economic development leaders say a viable pipeline of potential employees can be cultivated by reaching out to community colleges and secondary schools. The Drive to 55 initiative is an effort to re-engage students and older workers in industrial technology careers.

Monroe, Blount and Knox school directors, principals, Career and Technical Education (CTE) directors, and instructors will work with CLSCC and PSCC to develop career pathways in mechatronics and advanced manufacturing. Through dual credit and dual enrollment opportunities, students will earn credits toward an associate degree and an Industrial Automation Certificate (IAC) while in high school. Six schools in the MAESTRO program have high

⁴ Deloitte LLP and U.S. Council on Competitiveness, 2013 Global Manufacturing Competitiveness Index, http://www.deloitte.com/view/en_US/us/Industries/Process-Industrial-Products/manufacturing-competitiveness/mfg-competitiveness-index/index.htm

⁵ The Skills Gap in U.S. Manufacturing: 2015 and Beyond, The Manufacturing Institute, 2015.

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numbers of low-income students. The average percentage receiving free or reduced meals for MAESTRO schools is 46.78%. In two schools, more than 60% of students are in this category.

(See Appendix E, Chart 3, Page 5)

While the Tennessee Economic and Workforce Development website indicated the state produced a total of, “3,500 graduates in engineering, engineering technologies and engineering-related fields,”⁶ that total is not enough for the jobs in Knox, Monroe, and Blount Counties alone.

Section 2: Program Plan

The Marine and Advanced Engineering Systems Technology Regional Occupations (MAESTRO) project provides participants in Monroe, Blount, and Knox Counties with an industry-recognized certificate (the IAC) with their diploma. Participants will earn college credits to apply to the first year of an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree in Automated Industrial Systems (AIS) or Industrial Maintenance Technology (IMT) from PSCC or an AAS in Industrial Technology (IT) from CLSCC. PSCC and CLSCC will prepare high school and college students for 2,580 new, jobs in three counties, do it more efficiently, in less time, and with lower cost.

Detailed project timeline and overview -

MAESTRO Detailed Project Timeline, Assignment of Responsibilities & Measurable Objectives

Time	Activity	Involvement or Responsibility				Measurable Objectives	
		PSCC	CLSCC	Business Community Services (BCS)	Monroe County Schools (MCS)	Chamber and Industry Partners	
September 2016 and Ongoing Activities	Hold initial MAESTRO Steering Committee meeting. Meetings will be held bi-monthly.	X	X	X	X	X	Attendee list will be collected and minutes will be kept.
	Monthly status reports to be submitted by Blount Partnership	X	X	X	X	X	Blount Partnership Agency to submit

⁶ Make It Tennessee, <http://www.tnecd.com/advantages/workforce-education/>.

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	Agency to LEAP Grant Office throughout grant.						monthly reports.
	Order, receive, and install equipment through February 2017	X	X	X			Purchase Requisitions will be available for all equipment ordered.
	Building preparations initiated at Monroe County Center to accommodate equipment installation.		X				Wiring and set-up preparation completed by December 2017.
	Schedule meeting with secondary partners to develop action plan for implementing dual credit/enrollment courses for 2017-18.	X	X	X	X		Plan of action steps documented.
	Develop faculty positions job analysis questionnaires, obtain human resource approval, and prepare help wanted advertisements.	X	X				Preparations of job announcements will be completed.
	Intermittent evaluation of course offerings; provide tutoring services as needed for student success and retention; continue PR efforts; monthly progress meetings with all constituents throughout program	X	X	X	X		Evaluation reports; At least 50% of students taking assessment tests will pass; PR materials; monthly reports; progress plans for seniors; seniors continue to pursue degree after HS graduation.
October 2016	PSCC: Develop assessments for dual credit courses: Mechatronics I & II, Computer Applications/ENGT 1010, ENGT 1200, Robotics, Gen. Ed. Courses	X		X			Assessments developed for all dual credit courses to determine college-level credit.
	CLSCC: Dual credit articulations will be developed in collaboration with Monroe County CTE Director. Assessments are ready to be implemented in Introduction to Tech, Technical Calculus & Measurements, Electric Circuits, Fluid Power Systems, Occupational Safety, Welding I, and Computer Application. However, these dual credit courses have not been offered in Monroe County Schools due to the lack of available training equipment. The LEAP 2.0 grant would allow CLSCC to provide these course opportunities for these 3 high schools unable to offer the mechatronics courses to date.		X		X		Articulation agreement established and assessments for dual credit courses to determine college-level credit in place.

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November 2016	Develop promotional materials for future program recruitment.	X	X			X	Promotional Material will be printed and ready for distribution.
	Schedule informational meetings to include students, parents, and community (incumbent workers).	X	X	X	X	X	A calendar of informational meetings will document dates of planned sessions.
	CLSCC: Hire one technology faculty member to teach courses for incumbent workers.		X				One new CLSCC Technology instructor will start January 2017 to serve as lead faculty at the Monroe County Center. In August 2017, this instructor will assist with Monroe County high school offerings as well. Adjuncts contracted as necessary for the CLSCC Monroe County (MC) Center.
January 2017	Establish course offerings and high school student registration begins for 2017-2018	X	X	X	X		Students register for courses. At least 18 students will enter the AIS Program at PSCC. At least 12 students will register for the CLSCC Industrial Tech Program.
February 2017	Hire new faculty member at BCS, If additional second faculty is needed.			X			Hiring process completed with instructor(s) to start July 2017.
	Begin interviews for PSCC faculty members	X					
April 2017	Industry Tours and Employer High School Visits will be scheduled each March & April. CLSCC Career Expo held for Monroe County seniors at MC Center.		X		X		At least 20 companies will be represented at the career expo. Student attendance lists will be collected.
April, May and June 2017	Revisit curriculum development/planning for 2017-2018.	X	X	X	X	X	Courses ready to be offered and students prepared to participate.
July 2017	Hire PSCC technicians.	X		X			New Engineering Technology technicians will be hired for the Blount AIS Program by Aug. 15, 2017.
	Train and orient PSCC and CLSCC faculty and technicians	X	X	X	X		Trained faculty and technicians. A record

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	throughout program as deemed necessary						will be kept of training participation.
	For new, additional program hire (IF NEEDED) BCS faculty to attend two weeks of new faculty training required for a new Career and Technical Educator faculty.			X			A record will be kept of training provided to new AIS high school faculty
December 2017	The first round of dual credit assessments will be administered for classes offered Fall 2017.	X	X	X	X	X	At least 50% of those taking assessments will pass.
January 2018	Update and distribute and distribute promotional materials for program recruitment	X	X	X	X	X	Materials distributed at high schools, PSCC Blount Campus, CLSCC Monroe County Center and local industry.
	Schedule and conduct informational meetings for include students, parents, and community (incumbent workers).	X	X	X	X	X	A record of attendance at informational meetings will be kept.
February 2018 March 2018 April 2018	Establish course offerings and student registration begins for 2018- 2019; determine student interest in taking summer courses to apply towards program (schedule for summer as determined)	X	X	X	X		At least 15 high school students will return to the AIS program at PSCC with at least 18 new students signing up for the program. At least 6 students will be retained in the CLSCC program with 15 new students signing up for the 2018-19 year.
April 2018	Industry Tours and Employer Visits to High Schools. CLSCC Career Expo held for Monroe County seniors at MC Center.		X		X	X	At least 20 companies will attend career expo. Student attendance lists will be collected.
	Interview & Resume Prep Sessions for Incumbent Worker Cohort, as well as high school cohorts.	X	X	X	X	X	Attendance lists will be collected.
	Internship Interviews scheduled for Work-Based Learning Opportunities.	X	X	X	X	X	Interview records will be maintained.
June 2018 July 2018	Review curriculum and modify as necessary	X	X	X	X		Appropriate curriculum being offered
	Students taking summer courses (as determined)	X	X				Students taking courses
August-December 2018	Review curriculum and modify as necessary	X	X	X	X		Appropriate curriculum being offered
AFTER GRANT	PSCC will continue program to provide graduates with AIS	X	X	X	X		Graduates prepared to enter the workforce as

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degree and/or Industrial Automation Cert. CLSCC will provide graduates with Industrial Technology Certificates and AAS Degrees.							program is complete
MAESTRO Steering Meetings will continue for remainder of grant. Upon conclusion of grant, college advisory council meetings will continue on a quarterly basis.	X	X	X	X	X	X	Attendees list will be collected and minutes will be kept

MAESTRO will provide skills training and industry-recognized credentials to high school and college students. CLSCC and PSCC will offer incumbent workers a chance to improve skills, earn associate degrees or credentials, and make them eligible for promotions and raises. The project will encourage students, including females and other underserved groups to begin a career in advanced manufacturing where they can make as much as \$50,000 a year.

The partnership includes eight high schools in five school systems in three counties. CLSCC and PSCC will use dual credit with competency testing and dual enrollment to award college credits. Participants will earn credit toward an IAC and college credit toward an AAS or additional certificates. High school students, who complete the program, will graduate with a diploma, one year of college credit, and the IAC. Completers will have the skills to be hired by local manufacturing firms. Incumbent workers will earn college credit toward a degree or certificate or take non-credit classes to improve skills.

Companies hiring graduates offer college tuition reimbursement programs. At each rung of the educational ladder, employees become more valuable to their employer. MAESTRO participants will have a distinct educational, skill, and employability advantage.

Recently, PSCC added the Knox County Career Magnet Academy (CMA) to its Strawberry Plains Campus. Advanced manufacturing is one of its four career pathways offered at the academy. PSCC's Blount County Campus added AIS and IMT. CLSCC is developing a training

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facility at its Monroe County Center in the Tellico West Industrial Park to meet the needs of business and industry. All locations need equipment to accomplish this critical training.

Clear alignment of workforce data and Drive to 55 goals - MAESTRO will enable CLSCC to operate an advanced manufacturing program in Monroe County. PSCC needs equipment for dual credit and dual enrollment classes in AIS and IMT in Blount County and the CMA, which serves students from all areas of Knox County. Currently PSCC instructors ferry equipment between the Hardin Valley and Blount County to teach. Funding MAESTRO will give both colleges equipment to teach in the three counties where local data shows a great need.

Alignment with Tennessee's Drive to 55 goals - Tennessee's Drive to 55 initiative will equip 55% of adult Tennesseans with a degree or certificate by 2025. MAESTRO aligns with Drive to 55. MAESTRO is a partnership between eight high schools, economic development agencies, industry, and colleges to reduce the skills gap. MAESTRO increases the number of people with certificates or degrees. MAESTRO will reconnect incumbent workers to higher education to earn certificates, degrees, and promotions. MAESTRO builds upon Tennessee Promise to reduce the cost of higher education by using company tuition reimbursement programs.

Measurable objectives for each phase of the project - Measurable objectives for each phase of the project will be to 1) Advisory committee meetings will be held every other month; 2) Six schools will add a manufacturing curriculum (two already have it); 3) 100 participants will have entered program by grant's end; 4) 12 participants will have a Work-Based Learning (WBL) experience; 5) 10 WBL participants will get job offers; 6) 30 MAESTRO participants will be hired; 7) 20 MAESTRO participants will enroll in college; and 8) 20 MAESTRO participants will earn a certificate or degree.

Project governance and accountability plan - MAESTRO will be governed by the Advanced

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Manufacturing Advisory Committee of the Blount Partnership. The committee expanded to include Knox and Monroe industry; school districts; Tellico Reservoir Development Agency (TRDA); Knoxville Oak Ridge Innovation Valley; and CLSCC and PSCC.

The Blount Partnership is the lead agency and will oversee the grant supported by the modified advisory committee. It will monitor MAESTRO; suggest improvements based upon feedback and will insure the goals of MAESTRO are accomplished. The vice-presidents of Academic Affairs at CLSCC and PSCC will be responsible for grant compliance. The deans of PSCC's Engineering Technology and CLSCC's Industrial Technology will report progress every month to the advisory committee. CLSCC will be the fiscal agent and will provide monthly budget reports to the lead agency. The lead agency shares budget reports with the advisory committee during scheduled meetings. Organizational chains of command will be the same. Issues will be brought to PSCC and CLSCC by the lead agency.

Role of proposed equipment request - The equipment and supplies requested will be used to expand and teach dual credit, dual enrollment, college-level, and non-credit courses in AIS, IMT, and IT at PSCC or CLSCC.

Structure of Work-Based Learning program - The WBL component awards college credit. Companies, who hire WBL students, will be reimbursed for 50% of the wages up to \$2,000. MAESTRO follows the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Tennessee Board of Education policies depending upon whether it is a college or a high school. The WBL will occur in the high school student's senior year and will be the "Capstone" course for college participants. Courses for high school participants will align with Career and Technical Education (CTE). Students will complete most of their courses before participating in the capstone course. The WBL will reflect long-term career goals and enhance college and career preparation. WBL is a

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required course for a diploma or Eng. Tech. Capstone (ENGT 2995). It is a dual credit course, except when it is an Engineering Practicum, and then it will be dual enrollment.

Students in WBL will meet regular hours required for a full-time course equivalent. All WBL include the required classroom component. WBL may include professional-level job shadowing, technical mentoring and company tours. When students complete WBL, they will demonstrate professional-quality skills. Instructors will recommend WBL candidates to industries. Industry will assign a mentor and will report results of the WBL to schools for data collection.

Section 3: Strength of Partnership

Capabilities of each mandatory partner in ensuring project success – PSCC, the Blount Partnership, and THEC Knoxville have a successful, strong, long-term partnership, which includes the Executive Director of the PSCC Office of Business and Community Development serving as the chairperson of the Partnership's workforce development efforts. The Advanced Manufacturing Advisory Committee is an established entity with representatives of local industry, school systems, higher education, economic development entities, and District 4 of the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (formerly known as LWIA 4). Industry will be well represented with strong members such as DENSO, Alcoa, and Toyota Tsusho.

Knox County will be represented on the committee by Knoxville Oak Ridge Innovation Valley, Exedy America Corp., and a representative of the Career Magnet Academy.

CLSCC has an equally strong partnership with industries in the TRDA area. TRDA provided CLSCC with a training building to help meet industry demands. In the startup phase, a Monroe County Advisory Council was created. Industry partners include Carlex, JTEKT, SeaRay Boats, Mastercraft, and others, as well as the local school system and economic development agencies.

Detailed description of each mandatory partner's role in implementation of the identified

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program -

1. Economic Development Agency - Rachel Buchanan, Director of Economic Development
Blount Partnership - management, marketing, and advisory committee chair
2. Public institution of higher education –
 - a. Pellissippi State Community College – Margaret Ann Jeffries-Dean of Engineering and Technologies - Set-up and manage AIS, IMT and IAC programs in Blount and Knox Counties, train high school faculty, hire faculty and/or staff, purchase and maintain equipment, collect and report data, serve on advisory committee, and update curriculum
 - b. Cleveland State Community College – Patricia Weaver, Director of Off Campus Centers – Susan Webb-Curtis –Dean of Business and Technology-Fiscal management, set-up and manage IT and IAC programs in Monroe County schools and new industrial training center, train high school teachers, hire faculty, purchase and maintain equipment, collect and report data, serve on advisory committees, and update curriculum.
 - c. Tennessee College of Applied Technology Knoxville – Curt Johnston, Director of Education & Workforce Alignment - teach at high schools, advisory board, and update curriculum.
3. Industry employers – Linda Ford, HR Director, Carlex - Blount County – DENSO Mfg. Tennessee, Inc. (500 jobs), Alcoa, Inc. (200 jobs); Monroe County - Carlex (400 jobs), and Knox County –Knoxville Oak Ridge Innovation Valley - serve on advisory committee, provide WBL, provide speakers and tours, report quality of graduates, advise on curriculum matters, provide documentation to CLSCC for reimbursement of student wages,
4. K-12 school district – Alisa Teffeteller, Ed.D., Supervisor of Federal Programs/CTE, Blount County Schools, Elton Freichs, Ed.D., CTE Director Monroe County Schools- Serve on

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advisory committee, liaison between schools - colleges, report quality student learning,

liaison schools - industries, collection and report data.

Letters of support and/or commitment from local and area employers - MAESTRO has WBL commitments from Brunswick-Sea Ray, Skier's Choice; and Carlex in Monroe County; ProNova Solutions, Boatmate Trailers, and DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee in Blount County; and Exedy America Corp. in Knox County. See Appendix F. for regular letters of support.

Letters of support from higher education institution – See Appendix G for letters of Support from the PSCC president and the CLSCC president.

Section 4: Budget Plan - See Appendix B

Section 5: Sustainability

Detailed plan for sustaining the program - The county advisory committees will continue. PSCC's and CLSCC's programs will continue beyond the grant. High schools having invested personnel and resources will go on.

Plan for maintaining communications and sharing resources - Communication and sharing resources will revert to college service areas, PSCC and CLSCC will continue to talk, provide serves, and share resources with industries, non-profits, and area workforce agencies. Program advisory board will insure program improvements.

Description of long-term resources to maintain and repair equipment - Colleges employ full-time technicians and have recurring budgets to maintain equipment.

Plan for maintenance, housing, and upkeep of equipment purchased for grant – Maintenance and upkeep will be done by permanent technicians at each college. The equipment will be housed at the Strawberry Plains, Blount County and Monroe Campuses. Both colleges will assume responsibility for up keep on the equipment.

APPENDIX B - Budget and Budget Narrative

GRANT BUDGET					
LEAP Program Competitive Grant					
The grant budget line-item amounts below shall be applicable only to expenses incurred during the following					
Applicable Period: BEGIN: September 14, 2016 END: March 13, 2019					
POLICY 03 Object Line-item Reference	EXPENSE OBJECT LINE-ITEM CATEGORY 1	Cleveland State GRANT CONTRACT	Pellissippi State GRANT CONTRACT	GRANTEE PARTICIPATION	TOTAL PROJECT
1, 2	Salaries, Benefits & Taxes	\$106,260	\$240,587		\$346,847
4, 15	Professional Fee, Grant & Award 2	\$14,000	\$23,000		\$37,000
5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	Supplies, Telephone, Postage & Shipping, Occupancy, Equipment Rental & Maintenance, Printing & Publications	\$22,240	\$13,080		\$35,320
11, 12	Travel, Conferences & Meetings	\$10,000	\$36,584		\$46,584
18	Other Non- Personnel 2	\$2,000	\$0.00		\$2,000
20	Capital Purchase 2	\$306,480	\$149,600		\$456,080
22	Indirect Cost	\$36,878	\$37,028		\$73,906
24	In-Kind Expense				
25	GRAND TOTAL	\$497,858	\$499,879		\$997,737

¹ Each expense object line-item shall be defined by the Department of Finance and Administration Policy 03, *Uniform Reporting Requirements and Cost Allocation Plans for Subrecipients of Federal and State Grant Monies, Appendix A*. (posted on the Internet at: www.state.tn.us/finance/act/documents/policy3.pdf).

² Applicable detail follows this page if line-item is funded.

APPENDIX B - Budget and Budget Narrative

Line 1 Salaries And Wages

On this line, enter compensation, fees, salaries, and wages paid to officers, directors, trustees, and full-time employees. An attached schedule may be required showing client wages or other included in the aggregations.

Cleveland State Community College

Staff: \$77,000

The college will employ 1 full-time faculty member for the Industrial Technology program at the Monroe County Center (\$38,500 x 2 = \$77,000)

Title	Employment Dates	Annual Salary	Total Salary
1.0 FTE Faculty	01/01/2017 – 03/18/2019	\$38,500	\$77,000

Pellissippi State Community College

Staff And Wages: \$191,190

The College will employ 2 full-time technicians for Industrial Maintenance Technology (IMT) and Automated Industrial Systems (AIS) at the Strawberry Plains Campus and Blount County Campus (\$37,000 x 1.5 years x 2 = \$111,000)

The College will employ 2 part-time technicians for IMT and AIS at the Strawberry Plains Campus and Blount County Campus (\$22 per hour x 27 hours per week x 45 weeks x 1.5 years x 2 = \$80,190)

Title	Employment Dates	Annual Salary	Total Salary
1.0 FTE Technician Strawberry Plains Campus	07/01/2017 - 03/18/ 2019	\$37,000	\$55,500
1.0 FTE Technician Blount County Campus	07/01/2017 - 03/18/ 2019	\$37,000	\$55,500
1.0 PTE Technician Strawberry Plains Campus	07/01/2017 - 03/18/ 2019	\$26,730	\$40,095
1.0 PTE Technician Blount County Campus	07/01/2017 - 03/18/ 2019	\$26,730	\$40,095

Faculty and staff: Increases instructional capacity in the advanced manufacturing pathway with focus on mechatronics and maintenance, and automated industrial systems.

Line 2 Employee Benefits & Payroll Taxes

Enter (a) the institution's contributions to pension plans and to employee benefit programs such as health, life, and disability insurance; and (b) the institution's portion of payroll taxes such as social security and Medicare taxes and unemployment and workers' compensation insurance. An attached schedule may be required showing client benefits and taxes or other included in the aggregations.

APPENDIX B - Budget and Budget Narrative

Cleveland State Community College

Employee Benefits & Payroll Taxes: \$29,260

Full-time Faculty and Staff benefits are calculated at 38% of wage. Full-time Staff and Instructor benefits include FICA (6.2%); Medicare (1.45%); worker's compensation, retirement and health insurance costs. The College will employ one full-time faculty member at the Monroe County Center ($\$77,000 \times 38\% = \$29,260$)

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Employee Benefits & Payroll Taxes	\$14,630	\$14,630	\$0

Pellissippi State Community College

Employee Benefits & Payroll Taxes: \$49,397

Full-time Faculty and Staff benefits are calculated at 38.00% of wage. Full-time Staff and Instructor benefits include FICA (6.2%); Medicare (1.45%); worker's compensation, retirement and health insurance costs. The College will employ 2 full-time technicians for IMT and AIS at the Strawberry Plains Campus and Blount County Campus ($\$111,000 \times 38\% = \$42,180$)

Part-time Staff benefits are calculated at 9.00% of wage. Part-time benefits include FICA (6.2%); Medicare (1.45%); and worker's compensation. The College will employ 2 part-time technicians for IMT and AIS at the Strawberry Plains Campus and Blount County Campus ($\$80,190 \times 9\% = \$7,217$)

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Employee Benefits & Payroll Taxes	\$19,764	\$19,764	\$9,869

Line 4 Professional Fees

Enter the organization's fees to outside professionals, consultants, and personal-service contractors. (A detailed description is required in the Grant Budget Line-Item Detail if this line-item is funded.)

Cleveland State Community College

Professional Fees: \$5,000

Blount Partnership \$5,000

Funds allotted to provide project management, participant tracking and outcomes reporting \$2,000 Years 1 and 2, \$1,000 in Year 3.

Pellissippi State Community College

Professional Fees: \$5,000

Blount Partnership \$5,000

APPENDIX B - Budget and Budget Narrative

Funds allotted to provide project management, participant tracking and outcomes reporting.

Line 5 Supplies

Enter the organization's expenses for office supplies, food and beverages, and other supplies. An attached schedule may be required showing food expenses or other details included in the aggregations.

Cleveland State Community College

Supplies: \$22,240

Description	Unit Cost	Quantity
Career Expo in Years 1 and 2	\$1,500	2
Lab supplies multi meters	\$70	12
Wire Consumables in Years 1 and 2	\$1,700	2
All-in-one PC computers-Monroe Center	\$1,000	15

Pellissippi State Community College

Supplies: \$13,080

Description	Unit Cost	Quantity
Labvolt Transformer Trainer Strawberry Plains Campus	\$2,000	1
Labvolt Transformer Trainer Blount County Campus	\$2,000	1
Labvolt Load Strawberry Plains Campus	\$1,000	1
Labvolt Load Blount County Campus	\$1,000	1
Office Supplies in Years 1 and 2	\$1,000	2
Equipment for MET 1005 Blount County Campus	\$2,540	1
Equipment for MET 1005 Strawberry Plains Campus	\$2,540	1

Line 6 Telephone

Enter the institution's expenses for telephone, cellular phones, FAX, E-mail, telephone equipment maintenance, and other related expenses.

Cleveland State Community College

Telephone: \$0

APPENDIX B - Budget and Budget Narrative

Pellissippi State Community College
Telephone: \$0

Line 7 Postage And Shipping

Enter the institution's expenses for postage, messenger services, overnight delivery, outside mailing service fees, freight and trucking, and maintenance of delivery and shipping vehicles.

Cleveland State Community College
Postage And Shipping: \$0

Pellissippi State Community College
Postage And Shipping: \$0

Line 9 Equipment Rental and Maintenance

Enter the institution's expenses for renting and maintaining computers, copiers, postage meters, and other office equipment used exclusively for this grant initiative.

Cleveland State Community College
Equipment Rental and Maintenance Fees: \$0

Pellissippi State Community College
Equipment Rental and Maintenance Fees: \$0

Line 10 Printing And Publications

Enter the institution's expenses for producing printed materials (not including posters, advertising, and other marketing materials), purchasing books and publications, and buying subscriptions to publications.

Cleveland State Community College
Printing And Publications: \$0

Pellissippi State Community College
Printing And Publications: \$0

Line 11 Travel

Enter the institution's expenses for travel, including transportation, meals and lodging, and per diem payments.

Cleveland State Community College
Travel: \$5,000

Funds allotted to provide equipment training to faculty and staff
Train the Trainer \$5,000

Pellissippi State Community College
Travel: \$5,000

APPENDIX B - Budget and Budget Narrative

Train the Trainer \$5,000

Funds allotted to provide equipment training to faculty and staff

Line 12 Conferences And Meetings

Enter the institution's expenses for conducting or attending meetings, conferences, and conventions. Include rental of facilities, speakers' fees and expenses, printed materials, and registration fees.

Cleveland State Community College

Conferences And Meetings: \$5,000

NCCER Training -National Center for Education and Research \$3,500, Annual Reporting Fees \$1,500

Pellissippi State Community College

Conferences And Meetings: \$31,584

Funds allotted to send new technicians to school to learn how to operate AIS training equipment. National Instruments training, Knoxville, Tennessee \$6878, Regional training \$4,400, FANUC Certified Training \$5,100 = Total \$16,378

Funds allotted to send new technicians to school to learn how to operate IMT training equipment. FANUC Robot Maintenance, Robot Mechanical Disassembly/Reassembly, Course fee \$3,500, Travel \$750, Hotel \$300, Per Diem \$179, Baggage \$50, Car \$250, Parking \$40 for one Instructor and two Technicians = Total \$15,206

Line 15 Grants And Awards

Enter the institution's awards, grants, subsidies, and other pass-through expenditures to individuals and to other institutions, including travel and equipment allowances outside the institution (this includes WBL salary reimbursements). This classification includes items used in direct support of this initiative. (A detailed description is required in the Grant Budget Line-Item Detail if this line-item is funded.)

Cleveland State Community College

Grants And Awards: \$9,000

4 Internships \$8,000

Funds allotted to pay 50% of the cost of Work-based learning up to \$2,000 per student

Stipends paid to High School Teachers 2 x \$250 each Years 1 and 2= \$1000

Pellissippi State Community College

Grants And Awards: \$18,000

Funds allotted to pay high school teachers to learn how to teach college level AIS/IMT classes at \$1,000 each Total \$8,000

APPENDIX B - Budget and Budget Narrative

Student Support Services (Stipends)

Funds allotted to pay 50% of the cost of Work-based Learning up to \$2,000 per student

Total \$10,000

Line 18 Other Nonpersonnel Expenses

Enter the institution's allowable expenses for advertising, the institution's and employees' membership dues in associations and professional societies and licenses, permits, registrations, and testing fees.

Cleveland State Community College

Other Nonpersonnel Expenses: \$2,000

Advertising, promotion, flyers \$1,000 in Years 1 and 2

Pellissippi State Community College

Other Nonpersonnel Expenses: \$0

Line 19 Capital Purchases

Enter the organization's purchases of fixed assets and purchases with a minimum life expectancy of one year. Include land, equipment, buildings, leasehold improvements, and other fixed assets.

Cleveland State Community College

Capital Purchases: \$306,480

Equipment: \$281,480

Description	Unit Cost	Quantity
NIDA AC/DC Training System-Monroe Center	\$5,004	12
Mechanical Systems Training System-Monroe Center	\$37,375	1
Electrical Motor Controls training system-Monroe Center	\$37,131	2
Allen-Bradley ControLogix 5000 PLC training packages-Monroe Center	\$22,494	2
Hydraulic/Pneumatic training system-Monroe Center	\$64,807	1

Facility Improvement: \$25,000

Pellissippi State Community College

Capital Purchases: \$149,600

Description	Unit Cost	Quantity
Amatrol Industrial Construction Trainer Equipment for EET 1055 Blount County Campus and Strawberry Plains Campus	\$10,000	2
Hydraulics Trainer Equipment for MET 2022 Blount County Campus	\$48,000	1
Pneumatics Trainer Equipment for MET 2022 Blount County Campus	\$48,000	1

APPENDIX B - Budget and Budget Narrative

Easy Laser Alignment System Equipment for MET 2030 Blount County Campus and Strawberry Plains Campus	\$16,800	2
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Line 22 Indirect Costs

This amount is intended to cover costs associated with administrative functions including providing the required project reports, financial information, and information to support project evaluation.

Cleveland State Community College

Indirect Costs: \$36,878

Pellissippi State Community College

Indirect Costs: \$37,028

Line 24 In-Kind Expenses

This amount is for reporting the value of contributed resources applied to the program. Approval and reporting guidelines for in-kind contributions will be specified by those contracting state agencies who allow their use toward earning grant funds.

Cleveland State Community College

In-Kind Expenses: \$0

Pellissippi State Community College

In-Kind Expenses: \$0

Line 25 Total Expenses

Total Direct and Administrative Expenses, and Line 24, In-kind Expenses, goes on this line.

Cleveland State Community College

Total Expenses: \$497,858

Pellissippi State Community College

Total Expenses: \$499,879

APPENDIX C: Scoring Rubric

Scoring Rubric

Program Name: The Marine and Advanced Engineering System Technology Regional Occupations (MAESTRO)

Lead Entity: Blount Partnership

Higher Education Partner: Cleveland State and Pellissippi State Community Colleges
Tennessee College of Applied Technology-Knoxville

Evaluation Criteria	Maximum Points	Reviewer Score	Comments/Recommendations
<p><u>Section 1. Demonstrated Need</u></p> <p>- Is there localized data demonstrating the need for action?</p> <p>- Are there clear linkages between grant activities and local needs?</p> <p>- Is proposal aligned with state Drive to 55 goals?</p> <p><u>Scoring Range</u></p> <p>1 – Proposal is not aligned with goals of the RFP.</p> <p>10 – Proposal states goals and connects with priorities but lacks detail in how planned activities satisfy workforce need.</p> <p>20 – Proposal provides detailed and clear connections between local needs and planned activities.</p>	20		

APPENDIX C: Scoring Rubric

Evaluation Criteria	Maximum Points	Reviewer Score	Comments/Recommendations
<p><u>Section 2. Program Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is a detailed project timeline and overview provided? - Are there measurable objectives for each phase of the project? - Is a project governance and accountability plan clearly presented? - If requested, is there a clear justification for equipment? - If initiating work-based learning, is there clear alignment of localized need and academic credentialing? - If initiating work-based learning is there a clear plan for employer engagement, student outcomes, and payment reporting defined in the proposal? <p><u>Scoring Range</u></p> <p>1 – Program plan does not contain an organized overview or lacks sufficient timeline elements.</p> <p>10 – A program plan is presented but lacks sufficient details regarding identified objectives, governance, accountability information or skills gap improvement.</p> <p>25– Program plan as submitted provides a viable and organized approach and includes all required elements.</p> <p>+5 Bonus Points for submitting a proposal that includes a WBL program component.</p>	<p>25 (30 with bonus)</p>		

APPENDIX C: Scoring Rubric

<p><u>Section 3. Strength of Partnership</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is there a detailed description of the role of each partner in implementation of the project? - Are the capabilities of each partner in ensuring project success adequately described? - Are appropriate letters provided? <p><u>Scoring Range</u></p> <p>1 – Partnerships are not stated or clearly defined, or lack the required members.</p> <p>10 – Partners are named but do not reflect an effective and organized approach given the program’s parameters.</p> <p>20 – Partners are specifically named and regional employer resources and commitments are sufficiently described demonstrating the likelihood of program success in the region.</p>	20		
<p><u>Section 4. Budget Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are budget requests detailed, justified, and accurately reflected? - Are projected expenditures consistent with the program’s stated goals? <p><u>Scoring Range</u></p> <p>1 – Budget is incomplete and/or unreasonable given the scope of the proposal.</p> <p>10 – Budget lacks sufficient detail but expenditures seem to be reasonable given the scope of the proposal.</p> <p>15 – Budget is complete with sufficient justifications and detail listed for each line item.</p>	15		

APPENDIX C: Scoring Rubric

<p><u>Section 5. Sustainability</u></p> <p><i>- Is there a detailed plan for sustaining the program beyond the 30-month funding period?</i></p> <p><i>- Is there a detailed plan for maintaining communication and sharing resources?</i></p> <p><u>Scoring Range</u></p> <p><i>1 – Sustainability plan is incomplete and/or unreasonable given the scope of the proposal.</i></p> <p><i>10 – Sustainability plan lacks sufficient detail but plan seems to be reasonable given the scope of the proposal.</i></p> <p><i>20 – Sustainability plan is complete with sufficient detail provided for proper investment of resources.</i></p>	20		
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APPENDIX C: Scoring Rubric

Total Score: _____ (out of 105)

Reviewer Signature: _____

Name Date

Overall Comments:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be a standard notebook page or a sheet of stationery. There is no handwriting or other markings on the page.

APPENDIX D. Intent to Submit Notification

LEAP Program Intent to Submit Notification

Lead Entity:

Blount Partnership

Project Director/Co-Director:

Rachel Buchanan

Project Director/Co-Director Phone Number(s):

(865) 659-8490

Project Director/Co-Director Email Address (es):

Rtrump@blountpartnership.com

Name of Higher Education Institution:

Pellissippi State Community College, Cleveland State Community College, Tennessee College of Applied Technology – Knoxville

Title of Proposed Project:

MAESTRO – Marine and Advanced Engineering Systems Technology for Regional Occupations

Proposed Partners:

Blount County Schools, Maryville City Schools, Alcoa City Schools, LWIA4, Denso, Alcoa Inc, Newell Rubbermaid, Koide Tennessee, Toyota Tsusho America, Promat, Boatmate Trailers, Cherokee Millwright, Monroe County Schools, Monroe County Economic Development, Cleveland State Community College, Tellico Reservoir Development Agency, Tennessee Career Center (Local Workforce Investment Area #4), JTEKT, Carlex, Mastercraft Boats, SeaRay Boats, Yamaha

Proposed Funding Requested:

\$1,000,000

APPENDIX E. Charts and Graphs

Chart 1

Score %	National High Growth Industry	Green Occupation	Regional High Growth Industry	Occupation Title
100				Manufacturing Engineers
88				First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers
82				Manufacturing Production Technicians
65				Manufacturing Engineering Technologists
44				Extruding and Drawing Machine Setters, Operators and Tenders, Metal and Plastic
35				Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic
35				Textile Knitting and Waving machine Setters, Operators, Metal and Plastic
26				Computer-Controlled machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic
26				Forging Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders Metal and Plastic
26				Industrial Engineers
26				Rolling Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders Metal and Plastic
26				Sawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders Wood
26				Team Assemblers
26				Vocational Education Teachers, Postsecondary
18				Computer Numerically Controlled Machine Tool Programmers, Metal and Plastic
15				Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products
15				Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products

Resource: JOBS4TN.GOV

Chart 1: This data taken from information on the Jobs4TN website indicates that most manufacturing jobs in the region and the nation are “high growth.” However, three blocks in the regional chart relating to important manufacturing careers are not highlighted in red. The actual situation in Knox, Blount, and Monroe Counties, represented by the actual number of new manufacturing jobs (2,680) announced in the last 15 months, proves that those blocks should be highlighted as regards the counties Cleveland State and Pellissippi State will be serving.

APPENDIX E. Charts and Graphs

Chart 2

Industry Name	Product	Number of Employees	Number of Employees in the last 15 months or NEW	Total Number of Employees	County	Advanced Manufacturing Jobs
Advanced Munitions International	firearms industry		605		Blount	
DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc.	starters, alternators, instrument clusters, electronics, and body electronics	3100	500	3,600	Blount	
TeamHealth	healthcare staffing		450		Blount	
K12 Inc.	education technology		330		Blount	
Alcoa	lightweight metals technology, engineering and manufacturing		200		Blount	
ProNova	proton therapy machines	120	70	190	Blount	
			2,155			1,375
Lifetime Products	blow-molded polyethylene folding chairs and tables, picnic tables, and home basketball equipment.		500	500	Knox	
TeamHealth	healthcare staffing		250	250	Knox	
Regal Entertainment Group	theater chain		75	75	Knox	

APPENDIX E. Charts and Graphs

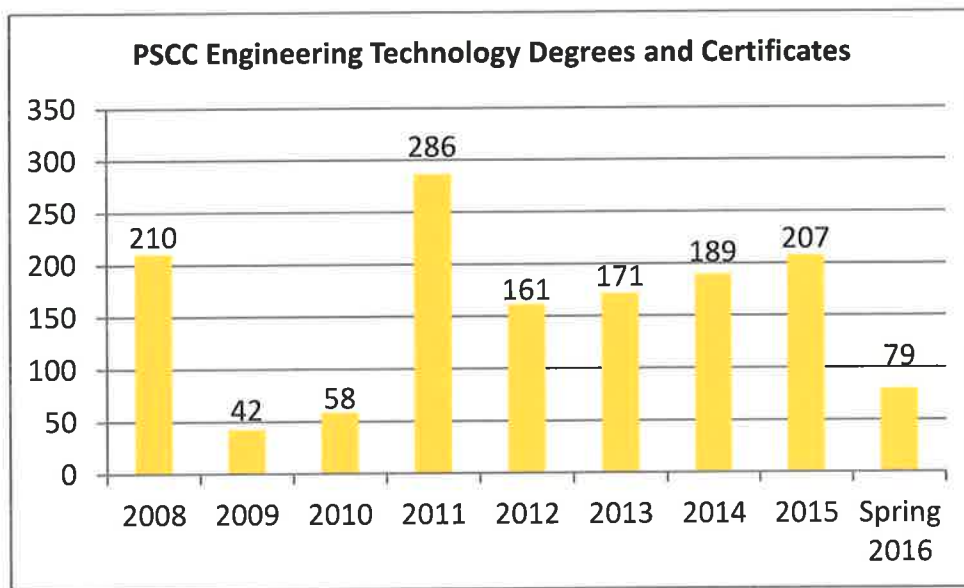
Chart 2 Continued

Industry Name	Product	Number of Employees	Number of Employees in the last 15 months or NEW	Total Number of Employees	County	Advanced Manufacturing Jobs
Innovate Manufacturing	plastic molding and contract manufacturing		50	50	Knox	
Jewelry Television	fine jewelry and loose gemstones		30	30	Knox	
			905			550
JTEKT Automotive	hydraulic rack and pinion & electric steering	900	400	1,300	Monroe	
Havco Wood Products	laminated wood floors for trucks	350	150	500	Monroe	
YAMAHA Boats	family/fun Boats	305	147	452	Monroe	
Carlex Glass Company	automotive glass	393	107	500	Monroe	
AEROFLEX USA	closed-cell thermal insulation	100	50	150	Monroe	
Hope Industries a division of Wright Plastic Products	injection molded plastic parts	27	21	48	Monroe	
Strategic Packaging Systems	flexible packaging manufacturer	15	15	30	Monroe	
			890			755
			3,950	Grand Total		2,580

Source: Blount County Press Releases, Knox County Mayor's Office, Monroe County Economic Development Office, and the Knox County/Knoxville Chamber of Commerce.

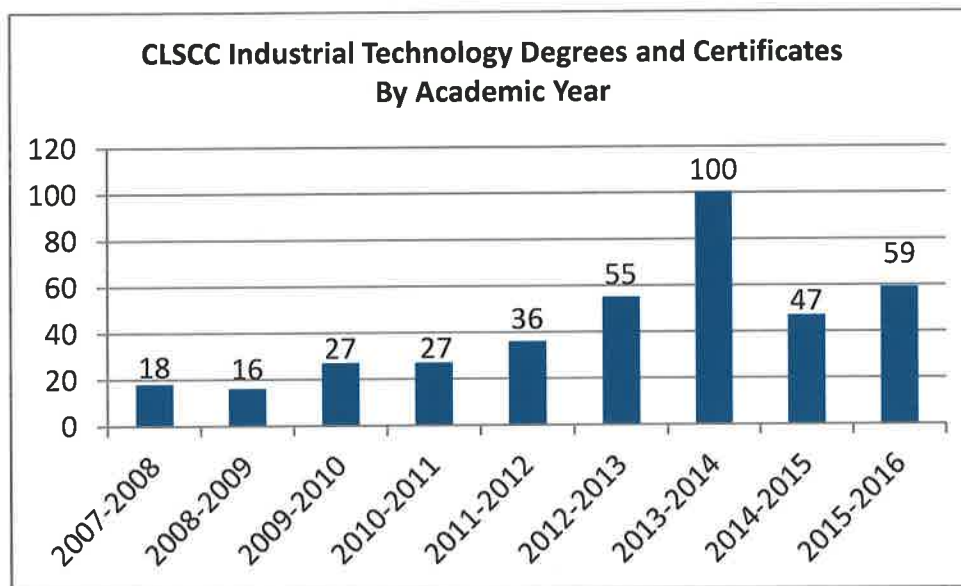
APPENDIX E. Charts and Graphs

Graph 1



Graph 1: This visual shows the number of Engineering Technology students who earned an associate degree or certificate by year from 2008 through the Spring Semester of 2016. The average number of graduates with middle or high skills was 171 per year.

Graph 2



Graph 2: This graphic shows that while the number of Industrial Technology graduates at CLSCC has been growing steadily over the past nine years, the college was only able to graduate a total of only 385 students with middle or high skills in manufacturing.

APPENDIX E. Charts and Graphs

Chart 3

Percentage of students in the MAESTRO service area in the Free or Reduced Meals Program	
County and School	Free and Reduced Meals Percentage
Blount County Schools	
Alcoa High School	40.93%
Heritage High School	51.70%
Maryville High School	24.20%
William Blount High School	44.80%
Monroe County Schools	
Sequoyah High School	53.70%
Sweetwater High School	64.98%
Tellico Plains High School	63.94%
Knox County Schools	
Career Magnet Academy	30%
Average for grant service area	46.78%



July 7, 2016

Curt Johnston
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway
Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Mr. Johnston,

On behalf of Alcoa Tennessee Operations, we would like to express our enthusiastic support for the LEAP 2.0 grant application of the Blount County Partnership, Pellissippi State Community College, and Cleveland State Community College.


It is a certainty that the need for skilled workers will increase substantially in Monroe, Knox, and Blount counties over the next two years. According to data collected from each county's economic development entity, 3,950 new jobs have been announced for these counties over the past 15 months. The bulk of these new job (2,780) will be in advanced manufacturing.


Over the past eight years, Pellissippi State's engineering technology program has produced an average of 171 engineering technology graduates with associate degrees, certificates, and the skills necessary to be hired by local manufacturers. At the same time, Cleveland State's industrial technology program is growing, and will need expensive equipment in order to ramp up to meet the present demand.

The rate at which the TBR community colleges and colleges of applied technology produce graduates in engineering or industrial technology with the associate degrees and certificates necessary to fill these new advanced manufacturing jobs and replace older workers as they retire is simply not keeping up with the current demand.

The proposed activities of this grant will reach down to high school students, get them started toward earning a degree or credentials making eligible for frontline jobs, and enable employers to help them to earn a degree. These students will graduate with their diploma, the first year of their associates degree completed, and a certificate in Industrial Automation.

This project will increase the pool of qualified applicants in our three-county area. We urge The Tennessee Higher Education Commission to select this grant application for funding.

Sincerely,

Christy R. Newman
Community Relations Manager


G. Michael Rule
Central Services and Engineering Manager



**BLOUNT COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

508 North Cusick Street
Maryville, TN 37804

Phone 865-982-0981
Fax 865-977-1142
www.blountlibrary.org

June 16, 2016

L. Anthony Wise, Jr.
President
Pellissippi State Community College
10915 Hardin Valley Road
Knoxville, TN 37933

Dear Dr. Wise:

Blount County Public Library will partner with Pellissippi State Community College and Blount Partnership in the event the Blount Partnership is awarded the Tennessee LEAP 2.0 grant program. We are committed to working with you to provide on-the-job training experiences to improve the skills of students, and improve their employment opportunities.

Blount County Public Library is committed to co-enrolling students and providing assistance with needed services for apprentice/intern/on-the-job training in Advanced Manufacturing, Computer Science, Information Technology, or Nursing field. These opportunities would be for PSCC students majoring in or seeking certification in their appropriate field. We understand that the LEAP 2.0 grant may be able to reimburse a company for up to 50% of a successful student's wages.

We are pleased Pellissippi State Community College and Blount Partnership are pursuing funding and will be an active partner in meeting the goals and objectives of this grant proposal. This support includes development and implementation of employer-driven career pathways, hosting site visits, providing guest lectures, and providing an organizational representative to serve on the grant Advisory Council. In addition, we will refer prospective program participants to Pellissippi State and we will consider hiring qualified graduates.

Thank you again for partnering with us. We look forward to continuing our excellent relationship with Pellissippi State and Blount Partnership.

Sincerely,

K.C. Williams
Director
Blount County Public Library

APPENDIX F. Letters of Support

Monday, July 11, 2016

Curt Johnston
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway
Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Mr. Johnston,

On behalf of Boatmate Trailers, LLC, we would like to express our enthusiastic support for the LEAP 2.0 grant application of the Blount County Partnership, Pellissippi State Community College, and Cleveland State Community College.

It is a certainty that the need for skilled workers will increase substantially in Monroe, Knox, and Blount Counties over the next two years. According to data collected from each county's economic development entity, 3,950 new jobs have been announced for these counties over the past 15 months. The bulk of these new job (2,780) will be in advanced manufacturing.

Over the past eight years, Pellissippi State's engineering technology program has produced an average of 171 engineering technology graduates with associate degrees, certificates, and the skills necessary to be hired by local manufacturers. At the same time, Cleveland State's industrial technology program is growing, and will need expensive equipment in order to ramp up to meet the present demand.

The rate at which the TBR community colleges and colleges of applied technology produce graduates in engineering or industrial technology with the associate degrees and certificates necessary to fill these new advanced manufacturing jobs and replace older workers as they retire simply not keeping up with the current demand.

The proposed activities of this grant will reach down to high school students, get them started toward earning a degree or credentials making eligible for frontline jobs, and enable employers to help them to earn a degree. These students will graduate with their diploma, the first year of their associates degree completed, and a certificate in Industrial Automation.

This project will increase the pool of qualified applicants in our three-county area. We urge The Tennessee Higher Education Commission to select this grant application for funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R.C. Miller".

President
Boatmate trailers, LLC
1713 Henry G Lane Street
Maryville, TN 37801

APPENDIX F. Letters of Support



June 28, 2016

Curt Johnston
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Mr. Johnston,

On behalf of Sea Ray Boats and the Brunswick Corporation, we would like to express our enthusiastic support for the LEAP 2.0 grant application of Cleveland State Community College, Pellissippi State Community College and the Blount County Partnership.

Sea Ray currently employs 527 employees. Due to anticipated growth, annual turnover and expanding numbers of retiring workers, we anticipate hiring employees requiring skills and/or training in Production, Quality, Engineering and Maintenance over the next 5 years.

Sea Ray supports Cleveland State Community College as a partnering employer in the LEAP 2.0 Grant designed to purchase relevant equipment and establish an intensive training center at the new CSCC Monroe County Center. The proposed activities of this grant will reach high school students to start them on an educational pathway toward earning a post-secondary industrial or engineering technology certificate or degree. Incumbent workers will also be recruited into training opportunities provided at the center.

We are committed to working with the college to prepare trained workers by engaging in the following activities:

- Providing a work-based learning opportunity for one to two interns during the grant period. Wages paid to an intern will be committed as an in-kind grant match with the grant covering 50% of intern wages.
- Participate in a Career Expo held at the CSCC Monroe County Center.
- Participate in classroom presentations, mock interviews, job shadowing or other job readiness activities.
- Providing opportunities for students to interview for job openings at our organization.
- Serve on the Monroe County Advisory Council to provide guidance on training and equipment needs.

Sea Ray greatly values our partnership with Cleveland State Community College. Together, we have the opportunity to train and develop a workforce to increase the pool of qualified applicants. This grant will not only support our needs, but the needs of a large automotive and marine manufacturing footprint in this area as well. We urge The Tennessee Higher Education Commission to select this grant application for funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee J. Haniford".

Lee J. Haniford
Human Resource Manager
Brunswick – Sea Ray Tellico Lake Operations
100 Sea Ray Circle
Vonore, TN 37885

APPENDIX F. Letters of Support



June 28, 2016

Curt Johnston
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Mr. Johnston,

On behalf of Sea Ray Boats and the Brunswick Corporation, we would like to express our enthusiastic support for the LEAP 2.0 grant application of Cleveland State Community College, Pellissippi State Community College and the Blount County Partnership.

Sea Ray currently employs 527 employees. Due to anticipated growth, annual turnover and expanding numbers of retiring workers, we anticipate hiring employees requiring skills and/or training in Production, Quality, Engineering and Maintenance over the next 5 years.

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We are committed to working with the college to prepare trained workers by engaging in the following activities:

- Providing a work-based learning opportunity for one to two interns during the grant period. Wages paid to an intern will be committed as an in-kind grant match with the grant covering 50% of intern wages.
- Participate in a Career Expo held at the CSCC Monroe County Center.
- Participate in classroom presentations, mock interviews, job shadowing or other job readiness activities.
- Providing opportunities for students to interview for job openings at our organization.
- Serve on the Monroe County Advisory Council to provide guidance on training and equipment needs.

Sea Ray greatly values our partnership with Cleveland State Community College. Together, we have the opportunity to train and develop a workforce to increase the pool of qualified applicants. This grant will not only support our needs, but the needs of a large automotive and marine manufacturing footprint in this area as well. We urge The Tennessee Higher Education Commission to select this grant application for funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Daniel Nickolai".

Daniel Nickolai
Plant Manager
Brunswick – Sea Ray Tellico Lake Operations
100 Sea Ray Circle
Vonore, TN 37885



**East Tennessee Human Resource Agency,
Inc.**

Administrative Office
9111 Cross Park Drive, Suite D-100
Knoxville, Tennessee 37923
Voice (865) 691-2551
Fax (865) 531-7216
TDD (866) 868-3830

www.ethra.org

June 14, 2016

L. Anthony Wise, Jr.
President
Pellissippi State Community College
10915 Hardin Valley Road
Knoxville, TN 37933

Workforce Development
728-E Emory Valley Road
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830
Voice (865) 590-1052
Fax (865) 590-1081

Dear Dr. Wise:

The Local Workforce Development Area 4 (LWDA 4) welcomes the opportunity to partner with Pellissippi State Community College and Blount Partnership in submitting an application for the Tennessee LEAP 2.0 grant program. We are committed to working with you to provide students with opportunities that will enhance their training experiences and long term productivity.

LWIA 4 is committed to co-enrolling students, as funds allow, and providing assistance with needed services for apprentice/intern/on-the-job training in Advanced Manufacturing, Computer Science, Information Technology, or Nursing field. These opportunities would be for PSCC students majoring in or seeking certification in their appropriate field. We understand that the LEAP 2.0 grant may be able to reimburse a company for up to 50% of a successful student's wages.

We are pleased Pellissippi State Community College and Blount Partnership are pursuing funding and we will be an active partner in meeting the goals and objectives of this grant proposal. This support includes development and implementation of employer-driven career pathways, hosting site visits, providing guest lectures, and providing an organizational representative to serve on the grant Advisory Council. In addition, we will refer prospective program participants to Pellissippi State and we will consider hiring qualified graduates.

Thank you again for partnering with us on this important grant opportunity. We look forward to continuing our relationship with Pellissippi State and Blount Partnership.

Sincerely,

Chris Tiller, WIOA Director



July 19, 2016

L. Anthony Wise, Jr.
President
Pellissippi State Community College
10915 Hardin Valley Road
Knoxville, TN 37933

Dear Dr. Wise:

Innovation Valley will partner with Pellissippi State Community College and Blount Partnership in the event the Blount Partnership is awarded the Tennessee LEAP 2.0 grant program. We are committed to working with you to assist in finding on-the-job training experiences to improve the skills of students, and improve their employment opportunities. These opportunities would be for PSCC students majoring in or seeking certification in the field of manufacturing.

We are pleased Pellissippi State Community College and Blount Partnership are pursuing funding and will be an active partner in meeting the goals and objectives of this grant proposal. This support includes development and implementation of employer-driven career pathways, encouraging members to host site visits, providing guest lecturers, and providing an organizational representative to serve on the grant Advisory Council. In addition, we will refer prospective program participants to Pellissippi State.

Thank you again for partnering with us on this important grant opportunity. We look forward to continuing our excellent relationship with Pellissippi State and Blount Partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rhonda Rice".

Rhonda Rice
Executive Director
Innovation Valley

APPENDIX F. Letters of Support

July 1, 2016

Curt Johnston
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway
Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Mr. Johnston,

On behalf of ProNova Solutions we would like to express our enthusiastic support for the LEAP 2.0 grant application of the Blount County Partnership, Pellissippi State Community College, and Cleveland State Community College.

It is a certainty that the need for skilled workers will increase substantially in Monroe, Knox, and Blount Counties over the next two years. According to data collected from each county's economic development entity, 3,950 new jobs have been announced for these counties over the past 15 months. The bulk of these new jobs (2,780) will be in advanced manufacturing.

Over the past eight years, Pellissippi State's engineering technology program has produced an average of 171 engineering technology graduates with associate degrees, certificates, and the skills necessary to be hired by local manufacturers. At the same time, Cleveland State's industrial technology program is growing, and will need expensive equipment in order to ramp up to meet the present demand.

The rate at which the TBR community colleges and colleges of applied technology produce graduates in engineering or industrial technology with the associate degrees and certificates necessary to fill these new advanced manufacturing jobs and replace older workers as they retire simply not keeping up with the current demand.

The proposed activities of this grant will reach down to high school students, get them started toward earning a degree or credentials making eligible for frontline jobs, and enable employers to help them to earn a degree. These students will graduate with their diploma, the first year of their associates degree completed, and a certificate in Industrial Automation.

This project will increase the pool of qualified applicants in our three-county area. We urge The Tennessee Higher Education Commission to select this grant application for funding.

Sincerely,



Adam Kuhn
Vice President, Operations
ProNova Solutions, LLC



1717 Henry G. Lane Street • Maryville, Tennessee 37801 • Tel: (865) 983-9924 • Fax: (865) 983-9950

July 8, 2016

Curt Johnston

Tennessee Higher Education Commission 404 James Robertson Parkway
Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Mr. Johnston,

On behalf of Skier's Choice, Inc., we would like to express our enthusiastic support for the LEAP 2.0 grant application of the Blount County Partnership, Pellissippi State Community College, and Cleveland State Community College.

It is a certainty that the need for skilled workers will increase substantially in Monroe, Knox, and Blount Counties over the next two years. According to data collected from each county's economic development entity, 3,950 new jobs have been announced for these counties over the past 15 months. The bulk of these new job (2,780) will be in advanced manufacturing.

Over the past eight years, Pellissippi State's engineering technology program has produced an average of 171 engineering technology graduates with associate degrees, certificates, and the skills necessary to be hired by local manufacturers. At the same time, Cleveland State's industrial technology program is growing, and will need expensive equipment in order to ramp up to meet the present demand.

The rate at which the TBR community colleges and colleges of applied technology produce graduates in engineering or industrial technology with the associate degrees and certificates necessary to fill these new advanced manufacturing jobs and replace older workers as they retire simply not keeping up with the current demand.

The proposed activities of this grant will reach down to high school students, get them started toward earning a degree or credentials making eligible for frontline jobs, and enable employers to help them to earn a degree. These students will graduate with their diploma, the first year of their associates degree completed, and a certificate in Industrial Automation.

This project will increase the pool of qualified applicants in our three-county area. We urge The Tennessee Higher Education Commission to select this grant application for funding.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Hickle
Human Resources Director

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SUPRA
100MBA

APPENDIX F. Letters of Support

Work-Based Learning Commitments

APPENDIX F. Letters of Support

Date 7/11/2016

L. Anthony Wise, Jr.
President
Pellissippi State Community College
10915 Hardin Valley Road
Knoxville, TN 37933

Dear Dr. Wise:

Boatmate Trailers, LLC will partner with Pellissippi State Community College and Blount Partnership in the event the Blount Partnership is awarded the Tennessee LEAP 2.0 grant program. We are committed to working with you to provide on-the-job training experiences to improve the skills of students, and improve their employment opportunities.

Boatmate is committed to providing two years of experience for 2 apprentice/intern/on-the-job participant students as welders. These opportunities would be for PSCC students majoring in or seeking certification in the field of manufacturing. We will provide resources to the apprentices in the form of mentors, wages, equipment, and training materials. We understand that the LEAP 2.0 grant may be able to reimburse the company for up to 50% of a successful student's wages.

We are pleased Pellissippi State Community College and Blount Partnership are pursuing funding and will be an active partner in meeting the goals and objectives of this grant proposal. This support includes development and implementation of employer-driven career pathways, hosting site visits, providing guest lectures, and providing an organizational representative to serve on the grant Advisory Council. In addition, we will refer prospective program participants to Pellissippi State and we will consider hiring qualified graduates.

Thank you again for partnering with us on this important grant opportunity. We look forward to continuing our excellent relationship with Pellissippi State and Blount Partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Miller", is written over the printed name.

Ron Miller
President
Boatmate Trailers, LLC



June 29, 2016

Curt Johnston
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Mr. Johnston,

On behalf of Carlex Glass Company, we would like to express our enthusiastic support for the LEAP 2.0 grant application of Cleveland State Community College, Pellissippi State Community College and the Blount County Partnership.

Carlex employs approximately 530 employees. Due to anticipated growth, annual turnover and expanding numbers of retiring workers, we anticipate hiring employees requiring skills and/or training in Production, Quality, Engineering and Maintenance over the next 5 years.

Carlex supports Cleveland State Community College as a partnering employer in the LEAP 2.0 Grant designed to purchase relevant equipment and establish an intensive training center at the new CSCC Monroe County Center. The proposed activities of this grant will reach high school students to start them on an educational pathway toward earning a post-secondary industrial or engineering technology certificate or degree. Incumbent workers will also be recruited into training opportunities provided at the center.

We are committed to working with the college to prepare trained workers by engaging in the following activities:

- Providing a work-based learning opportunity for one to two interns during the grant period. Wages paid to an intern will be committed as an in-kind grant match with the grant covering 50% of intern wages.
- Participate in a Career Expo held at the CSCC Monroe County Center.
- Participate in classroom presentations, mock interviews, job shadowing or other job readiness activities.

APPENDIX F. Letters of Support



- Providing opportunities for students to interview for job openings at our organization.
- Serve on the Monroe County Advisory Council to provide guidance on training and equipment needs.

Carlex values our partnership with Cleveland State Community College. Together, we have the opportunity to train and develop a workforce to increase the pool of qualified applicants. We urge the Tennessee Higher Education Commission to select this grant application for funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Ford". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda Ford

Human Resources Manager

Carlex Glass Company

DENSODENSO MANUFACTURING TENNESSEE, INC.
1720 Robert C. Jackson Drive
Maryville, Tennessee 37801**Teaming Agreement
Between****Pellissippi State Community College and DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc.**

Whereas, DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc. (DENSO) and Pellissippi State Community College (PSCC) are interested in collaborating in the Tennessee Higher Education Commission's LEAP 2.0 grant project.

Whereas, both DENSO and PSCC recognize that business engagement in the education and training of workers is key to successful labor market outcomes for those workers;

Whereas, DENSO is an employer (NAICS 336320), which is in the service area of PSCC; and

Whereas, DENSO and PSCC are interested in signing a teaming agreement outlining roles and responsibilities of each organization;

Now therefore, each party agrees to the following:

Pellissippi State Community College agrees to collaborate with the employer in the following ways:

- 1) Academic support services such as tutoring, study-groups, or supplemental instruction programs
- 2) Career counseling and job placement services for Information Technology and/or Engineering Technology scholars
- 3) Community building and support among Information Technology and/or Engineering Technology scholars
- 4) Industry experiences, internship opportunities, and research opportunities
- 5) Participation in local or regional professional, industrial or scientific meetings and conferences
- 6) Recruitment of students to higher education programs and careers in Information Technology and/or Engineering Technology disciplines
- 7) Support and mentor students by faculty and other professionals

DENSO agrees to assist with the following components of the project:

- 1) Assist with the development of assessments or credentials that can significantly strengthen the reliability of student learning outcome measures
- 2) Help identify any industry-recognized certifications or credentials that are either necessary for employment or widely used by employers for hiring and promotion
- 3) Host site visits and guest lectures
- 4) Identify career pathways for incumbent workers to move forward and unemployed workers gain employment
- 5) Identify necessary skills and competencies needed by program graduates
- 6) Interview and possibly hire qualified participants that have completed training or PSCC graduation
- 7) Offer work-based training opportunities, such as paid internships, registered apprenticeships, on-the job training, for participants as appropriate
- 8) Provide company representative to serve on the funded program's leadership team and Advisory Council
- 9) Provide feedback on skills and competencies of workers completing training and placed into employment
- 10) Provide hiring and/or promotion consideration for qualified program participant
- 11) Provide resources to support education/training, i.e. equipment, instructors, mentors, funding, facilities, etc.
- 12) Refer eligible individuals to the PSCC training programs
- 13) Support and inform grant program design

L. Anthony Wise, Jr.
President
Pellissippi State Community College

Bob Booker
Senior Manager, Corporate Services Division
DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc.

June 30, 2016



EXEDY America Corporation

PO Box 8
2121 Holston Bend Dr.
Mascot, TN 37806

July 25, 2016

L. Anthony Wise, Jr.
President
Pellissippi State Community College
10915 Hardin Valley Road
Knoxville, TN 37933

Dear Dr. Wise:

Exedy America Corporation will partner with Pellissippi State Community College and Blount Partnership in the event the Blount Partnership is awarded the Tennessee LEAP 2.0 grant program. We are committed to working with you to provide on-the-job training experiences to improve the skills of students, and improve their employment opportunities.

Exedy America Corporation is committed to providing up to two years of experience for three apprentice/intern/on-the-job participant students in the areas of Tool & Die, Quality and Engineering. These opportunities would be for PSCC students majoring in or seeking certification in the field of manufacturing. We will provide resources to the apprentices in the form of mentors, wages, equipment, and training materials. We understand that the LEAP 2.0 grant may be able to reimburse the company for up to 50% of a successful student's wages.

We are pleased Pellissippi State Community College and Blount Partnership are pursuing funding and will be an active partner in meeting the goals and objectives of this grant proposal. This support includes development and implementation of employer-driven career pathways, hosting site visits, providing guest lectures, and providing an organizational representative to serve on the grant Advisory Council. In addition, we will refer prospective program participants to Pellissippi State and we will consider hiring qualified graduates.

Thank you again for partnering with us on this important grant opportunity. We look forward to continuing our excellent relationship with Pellissippi State and Blount Partnership.

Sincerely,

Miriam Jagels

Miriam Jagels
Human Resources Manager
Exedy America Corporation

APPENDIX F. Letters of Support

June 29, 2016

L. Anthony Wise, Jr.
President
Pellissippi State Community College
10915 Hardin Valley Road
Knoxville, TN 37933

Dear Dr. Wise:

ProNova Solutions will partner with Pellissippi State Community College and Blount Partnership in the event the Blount Partnership is awarded the Tennessee LEAP 2.0 grant program. We are committed to working with you to provide on-the-job training experiences to improve the skills of students, and improve their employment opportunities.

ProNova is committed to providing an experience for at least one apprentice/intern/on-the-job participant students as an Operations Intern during the grant period. These opportunities would be for PSCC students majoring in or seeking certification in the field of manufacturing. We will provide resources to the apprentices in the form of mentors, wages, equipment, and training materials. We understand that the LEAP 2.0 grant may be able to reimburse the company for up to 50% of a successful student's wages.

We are pleased Pellissippi State Community College and Blount Partnership are pursuing funding and will be an active partner in meeting the goals and objectives of this grant proposal. This support includes development and implementation of employer-driven career pathways, hosting site visits, providing guest lectures, and providing an organizational representative to serve on the grant Advisory Council. In addition, we will refer prospective program participants to Pellissippi State and we will consider hiring qualified graduates.

Thank you again for partnering with us on this important grant opportunity. We look forward to continuing our excellent relationship with Pellissippi State and Blount Partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AK', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Adam Kuhn
Vice President, Operations
ProNova Solutions, LLC



1717 Henry G. Lane Street • Maryville, Tennessee 37801 • Tel: (865) 983-9924 • Fax: (865) 983-9950

Proud
Manufacturers Of
SUPRA
MOOMBA

Rachel Trump Buchanan
Director of Economic Development
Blount Partnership

July 8, 2016

Dear Rachel:

Skier's Choice will support and participate in the LEAP program up to and including providing positions for Interns based on scheduling and availability. We certainly realize the benefit to be gained of having an additional "pool" of qualified applicants from which to draw employees.

Please keep me posted on the progress of the Grant and how we can provide support.

Thank you for your efforts to assist us and other manufacturers in the three county collaborative.

Respectfully,

Charles E. Hickle
Human Resources Director

APPENDIX F. Letters of Support

June 30, 2016

Curt Johnston
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Mr. Johnston,

On behalf of Yamaha Jet Boat Manufacturing (YJBM), we would like to express our enthusiastic support for the LEAP 2.0 grant application of Cleveland State Community College, Pellissippi State Community College and the Blount County Partnership.

YJBM employs approximately 450 employees. Due to anticipated growth, annual turnover and expanding numbers of retiring workers, we anticipate hiring employees requiring skills and/or training in Production, Quality, Engineering and Maintenance over the next 5 years.

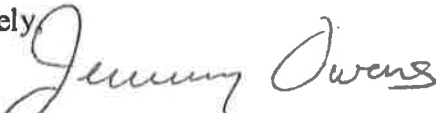
YJBM supports Cleveland State Community College as a partnering employer in the LEAP 2.0 Grant designed to purchase relevant equipment and establish an intensive training center at the new CSCC Monroe County Center. The proposed activities of this grant will reach high school students and incumbent workers to start them on an educational pathway toward acquiring industrial credentials and earning a post-secondary industrial or engineering technology certificate or degree.

We are committed to working with the college to prepare trained workers by engaging in the following activities:

- Participate in a Career Expo held at the CSCC Monroe County Center.
- Participate in classroom presentations, mock interviews, job shadowing or other job readiness activities.
- Providing opportunities for students to interview for job openings at our organization.
- Serve on the Monroe County Advisory Council to provide guidance on training and equipment needs.

YJBM values our partnership with Cleveland State Community College. Together, we have the opportunity to train and develop a workforce to increase the pool of qualified applicants. We urge The Tennessee Higher Education Commission to select this grant application for funding.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Owens
Manager, Assembly Department
Yamaha Jet Boat Manufacturing
2000 Cobia Drive
Vonore, TN 37885



July 19, 2016

Mr. Curt Johnston
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway
Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Mr. Johnston:

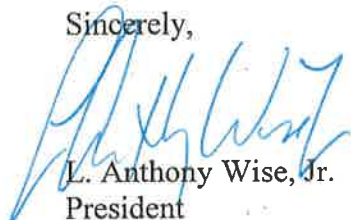
On behalf of Pellissippi State Community College (PSCC), thank you for the opportunity to submit a LEAP grant proposal. Pellissippi State Community College and the Blount Partnership have partnered with local high schools and manufacturers to meet the workforce needs of our rapidly expanding manufacturing base. The Marine and Advanced Engineering System Technology Regional Occupations (MAESTRO) partnership is committed to providing new on-the-job training experiences to improve the skills and employability of PSCC and high school students in Blount, Knox, and Monroe counties.

Pellissippi State will work with local industry to provide new or expanded on-the-training opportunities in Advanced Manufacturing. These opportunities will be for high school and PSCC students majoring in or seeking certification in their appropriate field. We will also be partnering with Cleveland State Community College.

We will be an active partner in meeting the goals and objectives of this grant proposal. This support includes development and implementation of employer-driven career pathways, hosting site visits, providing guest lectures, and designating an organizational representative to serve on the grant Advisory Council.

I am committed to the MAESTRO program. Pellissippi State will support the Blount Partnership and the other program partners to ensure the success of this program.

Sincerely,



L. Anthony Wise, Jr.
President

Cleveland State

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

July 20, 2016

Mr. Curt Johnston
Tennessee Higher Education Commission
404 James Robertson Parkway
Suite 1900
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Mr. Johnston:

Cleveland State Community College (CLSCC) is committed with Pellissippi State Community College and the Blount Partnership to implement the MAESTRO collaboration which will help to provide a much needed skilled workforce in Blount, Knox, and Monroe counties.

CLSCC is committed to providing quality training and education. We are currently developing a new training facility at the Monroe County Center in Vonore, TN which will help us accomplish one of our goals of the Cleveland State 2020 Community First Plan, which is "to offer relevant programs that satisfy needs of students and the workforce and deliver them in modes that maximize student engagement and completion". The program design will integrate the needed programming to provide skills, training and industry-recognized credentials to high school students. The program will prepare high school, college students, and incumbent workers for middle- and high-skill manufacturing jobs upon high school graduation or improve the skills of incumbent workers.

Cleveland State Community College is fully committed to meeting the goals and outcomes of the LEAP 2.0 grant. We are actively engaged in our community and helping to prepare tomorrow's workforce.

Sincerely,



Dr. William Seymour
President